

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 06059 100418Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 IO-13 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 AF-10

/113 W

-----056462 100628Z /23

R 091549Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3013

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 6059

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG IS SG

SUBJ: ISRAEL LABOR PARTY DELEGATION AT SI EXECUTIVE MEETING

1. ISRAEL GAT, DIRECTOR OF THE LABOR PARTY'S INTERNATIONAL DAPT., INFORMS US THAT THE PARTY'S CHAIRMAN AND LEADER OF THE KNESSET OPPOSITION, SHIMON PERES, WILL ARRIVE IN DAKAR MAY 11 TO ATTEND THE MAY 12-13 MEETING OF THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE. (HE IS PRESENTLY IN FRANCE ON A BRIEF VISIT.) ACCOMPANYING PERES WILL BE KNESSET MEMBER MICHA HARISH. NAVA ARAD, THE HEAD OF THE LABOR PARTY'S WOMEN'S AFFILIATE, VOLUNTEER WORKING WOMEN (PIONEER WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION IN THE U.S.), IS ALREADY IN DAKAR ATTENDING A MEETING OF THE SI WOMEN'S EXECUTIVE.

2. THE LABOR PARTY, NOW IN THE PROCESS OF REVITALIZATION AFTER THE SERIOUS MAULING IT RECEIVED IN LAST YEAR'S KNESSET ELECTION, WELCOMES THE OPPORTUNITY AFFORDED BY THE SI MEETINGS TO RENEW CONTACTS WITH THE SENEGALESE. IN LIGHT OF ISRAEL'S RELATIVE ISOLATION AND THE SCARCITY OF

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ITS FORMAL RELATIONS WITH AFRICAN COUNTRIES, THE LABOR PARTY PRIDES ITSELF ON THE EASY ACCESS IT ENJOYS TO WEST EUROPEAN AND NOW SENEGALESE SOCIALIST COLLEAGUES THROUGH THE SI. IN PARTICULAR, THE PARTY APPRECIATES THE OPPORTUNITY AFFORDED BY THE DAKAR MEETING TO REINFORCE ITS POLITICAL LINKS WITH MODERATE AFRICAN STATES. SENGHOR IS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO ISRAELIS BECAUSE OF HIS CONTINUED CULTIVATION

OF AN ISRAELI CONNECTION THROUGH THE LABOR PARTY
AS PART OF HIS PERCEIVED AMBITION TO PLAY A ROLE AS AN AFRICAN
STATESMAN IN BRINGING ABOUT AN ARAB-ISRAEL SETTLEMENT.
LEWIS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: PORG, OVIP, IS, SG, (PERES, SHIMON)
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